

**REMARKS**

This application contains claims 1-26. Claims 8, 9, 21 and 22 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 10, 12, 14, 23 and 25 are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-13 and 22-26 were objected to for depending from rejected base claims but were deemed to recite allowable subject matter. Therefore, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of canceled claims 8 and 9, while independent claim 14 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of canceled claims 21 and 22. Claims 1 and 14 are thus believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 10, 12, 23 and 25 have been amended so that claims 10-13 and 23-26 depend properly from claims 1 and 14, respectively.

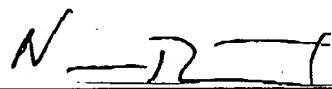
Claims 1, 6-8, 14 and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Wallace et al. (U.S. Patent 6,473,467) in view of Demjanenko (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0051501). While disagreeing with the grounds of rejection, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 14 as explained above for the sake of expediting prosecution. The amended independent claims now incorporate subject matter that the Examiner found to be patentable over the cited art.

In view of the patentability of the independent claims, dependent claims 2-7, 10-13, 15-20 and 23-26 are also believed to be patentable.

Claims 2-5 and 15-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Wallace in view of Demjanenko and further in view of one or more of van Nee (U.S. Patent 6,175,550), Levison et al. (U.S. Patent 6,366,938) and Chulajata et al. (U.S. Patent 6,434,375). In view of the patentability of amended independent claims 1 and 14, as noted above, dependent claims 2-5 and 15-18 are also believed to be patentable.

Applicants believe the amendments and remarks presented hereinabove to be fully responsive to all of the objections and grounds of rejection raised by the Examiner. In view of these amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims in the present application are in order for allowance. Notice to this effect is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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